

To: Superintendents of School
From: Peter McWalters
Date: November 25, 2003

Re: Guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer

Attached to this e-mail you will find guidance on Constitutionally Protected Prayer in Public Elementary and Secondary Schools; the guidance was issued by the U.S. Department of Education last February.

The guidance provides information on current law concerning constitutionally protected prayer in public schools.

As you know, no policy or practice in this state in any way interferes with the constitutionally protected rights of schoolchildren.

Once you have read the guidance, it is required by law that you certify to me in writing that no policy in your district prevents or otherwise denies participation in constitutionally protected prayer in your district's schools.

Please use the attached form to respond to me, by Friday, December 12, indicating your compliance with the law on constitutionally protected prayer. You can respond to me by fax, to 222-6178.

You may call my office if you have any questions on this matter.